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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00
CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11 NSC-05 OES-07
OMB-01 AGRE-00 DODE-00 NASA-01 /068 W
----------069495 190118Z /64
P 190021Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9611
DEAHQS WASHDC PRIORITY
CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
ALL CONSULATES MEXICO BY POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 MEXICO 06365

DEA MEX 0387
DEAHQS FOR ENOL, EN, IG

EO:11652:GDS
TAGS:SNAR/MX
SUBJECT: GOM ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION ACTIVITY REPORT, APRIL 1 THROUGH APRIL 7, FIELD OPERATIONS THROUGH APRIL 14, 1978.

1. GOM ERADICATION AND INTERDICTION STATISTICS FOR THE FOURTEENTH WEEK OF 1978 ARE OUTLINED BELOW: FIGURES IN PARENTHESIS REFLECT CUMULATIVE TOTAL EFFECTIVE DECEMBER, 1977.

ERADICATION	APRIL 1-7, 1978			
MEXICAN ZONES	5-9	3-4	1-2	TOTAL
A. POPPY FIELDS	353	6	112	471 (13,874)
B. HECTARES	40.67	.12	1.79	42.58 (1100)
C. MARIHUANA	40	1	27	68 (1,555)
D. HECTARES	5.66	.02	.4	6.08 (341)

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E. MIXED FIELDS	11	0	0	11 (103)
F. HECTARES	1.43	0	0	1.43 (10)

INTERDICTION	APRIL 1-7, 1978	
	THIS PERIOD	CUMULATIVE TOTAL
A. KG. HEROIN	2.964	51.120
B. KG. OPIUM	4.20	211.952

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C. KG. POPPY SEEDS 40.073 55.514
D. HEROIN LABS 0 7
E. KG. COCAINE 1.352 26.410
F. KG. MARIHUANA 11,027 215,640
G. KG. MARIHUANA SEEDS 21.457 738.197
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H. KG. HASHISH 0 52.65
I. LITERS HASHISH OIL 0 .250
J. KG. PEYOTE 11.100 11.100
K. D.U. DANGEROUS DRUGS 2,010 1,059,619
L. ARRESTS-MEXICAN 99 1465
M. ARRESTS-U.S. 3 53
N. ARRESTS-OTHER 0 11
O. VEHICLES 24 228
P. WEAPONS 83 608
Q. AMMUNITION 1560 23,704
R. PESOS 237,740 415,399
S. DOLLARS 500 11,942
T. AIRCRAFT 1 21
2. ERADICATION STATISTICS FOR THE 14TH WEEK OF 1978 HAVE BEEN COMPARED WITH THOSE FOR THE SAME PERIOD IN 1977. 471 POPPY FIELDS WERE DESTROYED DURING THE 14TH WEEK OF 1978 AS COMPARED WITH 391 POPPY FIELDS DESTROYED DURING THE SAME WEEK IN 1977. 42.58 HECTARES OF POPPIES WERE DESTROYED DURING THE 14TH WEEK OF 1978 AS COMPARED WITH 94.45
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HECTARES DURING THE SAME PERIOD IN 1977. THERE IS NO CHANGE TO THE BASIC TREND OF SMALLER SIZE FIELDS IN 1978 AS COMPARED TO 1977.
3. FIELD OPERATIONS:

A. ZONE 6: CULIACAN
1. NASA PROJECT: THE GOM APPROVED U-2 OVERFLIGHT SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 5 WAS POSTPONED AS SURFACE WIND CONDITIONS AT THE STAGING AREA IN THE U.S. EXCEEDED THE AIRCRAFT'S CROSS WIND COMPONENTS. THE U-2 FLIGHT ON APRIL 6 WAS ONLY ABLE TO ATTAIN 50-60 PERCENT AREA COVERAGE DUE TO CLOUD CONDITIONS; HOWEVER, EMBASSY OBTAINED GOM APPROVAL FOR SECOND FLIGHT WHICH LAUNCHED ON APRIL 7, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS AS CLOUD SITUATION PRECLUDED ANY PHOTOGRAPHY. EMBASSY HAS REQUESTED GOM APPROVAL FOR THIRD FLIGHT WITH A WINDOW TIME OF AT LEAST TEN DAYS. WHILE AG EXECUTIVE OFFICER BAEZA HAS INDICATED IMMINENT APPROVAL, EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECEIVED FORMAL NOTIFICATION.
FYI: BAEZA PROPOSED TO SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR THEM TO PROVIDE OBSERVER FOR STAGING AND RECOVERING OF U-2 AIRCRAFT AT DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB. THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ACCEPTED AND ASSIGNED COL. CALLEROS AVINA TO MONITOR STAGING

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AND RECOVERY FLIGHTS AT DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB.
B. CULIACAN: NASA OWNED AIRCRAFT, BEECH E-18 ARRIVED AT THE AG HANGAR ON APRIL 8 FOR STAGING OF FLIGHT MISSIONS OVER THE MARKED POPPY FIELDS FOR SPECTRAL-SIGNATURE DATA BASE. REQUIREMENTS ALSO INCLUDED LOW LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY AND LAND RECONNAISSANCE OVER AS MANY MARKED FIELDS AS POSSIBLE BY NASA TEAM.

ON APRIL 8, NASA TEAM CONSISTING OF MOONEYHAN, GLYDEWELL AND WELCH ARRIVED ACCOMPANIED BY EMBASSY OFFICER TO ASSIST WITH REQUIREMENTS AND BRIEF ON-STATION AG PERSONNEL ON NASA PROJECT.

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CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-11 NSC-05 OES-07
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THE E-18 FLEW ON APRIL 10 AND 12. THE FIRST MISSION WAS NOT COMPLETED DUE TO BAD WEATHER. SPECIAL APPROVAL WAS OBTAINED FROM SECRETARY OF DEFENSE THROUGH BAEZA'S OFFICE TO EXTEND TROOP PRESENCE IN THE FIELD UNTIL NASA REQUIREMENTS WERE COMPLETED. HOWEVER, THE E-18 CREW REPORTED THAT ON THEIR FLIGHT OF APRIL 12 THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF TROOPS ON THE GROUND AND SOME OF THE MARKINGS HAD BEEN DISTURBED OR REMOVED. DEBRIEFING OF THE E-18 CREW REVEALED THEY HAD FOUND THE 28 FIELDS MARKED DURING THE GROUND EXERCISE, PLUS 30 MORE FIELDS, AS ANTICIPATED. ADDITIONALLY, THEY FOUND "MANY MORE FIELDS, HALF OF THEM CAMOUFLAGED" AND UNDETECTABLE BY MEANS OF THE SENSOR UNIT. THESE FIELDS WERE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF GROWTH; SEVERAL HAD BEEN SCORED, EITHER

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EXPERIMENTALLY OR FOR HARVEST AND MANY WERE VERY YOUNG FIELDS. THIS WAS REPORTED TO ASSISTANT ZONE COORDINATOR CRUZ LOPEZ GARZA WHO ORDERED SPRAY SHIPS TO THE AREA.

ENTIRE NASA GROUP AND AIRCRAFT HAVE DEPARTED MEXICO. FILM, TAPES AND SAMPLES PRESENTLY IN JOINT CUSTODY OF NASA LABORATORY TECHNICIANS AND MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVE WHO FLEW TO CONFIDENTIAL

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U.S. IN E-18.

C. ZONE II CHILPANCINGO: BAEZA CONDUCTED A MEETING WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS, ZONE COORDINATOR AND CONTRACTED TECHNICIAN JOHN FORD TO COORDINATE ALL REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO EVALUATION-VERIFICATION BY HELICOPTER FLIGHTS TO BE FLOWN FOR FIRST WEEK IN SELECTED SECTORS OF ZONE II (STATE OF GUERRERO).

AG SENIOR STAFF JOINTLY PARTICIPATED WITH EMBASSY TEAM ON SELECTION AND NUMBER OF AVIATION RESOURCES, PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS, LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, AND CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR ANY POSSIBLE DISRUPTIONS. EVALUATION AND VERIFICATION EXERCISES SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE ON MONDAY, APRIL 17 IN ZONE II WITH FULL SUPPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE AG AS EMPHATICALLY UNDERSCORED BY BAEZA DURING MEETING WITH HIS SENIOR STAFF AND ZONE COORDINATORS.

D. ZONE I OAXACA:

BAEZA CONVOKED A MEETING WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS, CONTRACTED TECHNICIAN FORD AND ZONE COORDINATOR ON APRIL 13 TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES ON THE TEST PROJECT RELATED TO SPRAYING OF MARIHUANA WITH RHODAMINA-B DYE. THE EMBASSY-PREPARED PROPOSAL FOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS WAS ACCEPTED FOR FIELD TESTING AND IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE ON APRIL 18.

AG SENIOR STAFF AND EMBASSY OFFICERS JOINTLY FINALIZED ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR AVAIATION RESOURCES, PERSONNEL, LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, SECURITY ELEMENTS AND SPECIAL EQUIPMENT IN ZONE I.

FYI: INITIAL TESTING WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH BACK-PACK SPRAYING UNITS TO DETERMINE EFFECTIVE CONCENTRATION OF DYE. CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBSEQUENT TESTING WILL BE WITH 206-B SPRAYING HELICOPTER UNDER NORMAL SPRAYING CONDITIONS.

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TESTS WILL BE CONFINED TO MARIHUANA AND DYE WILL BE ADDED TO STANDARD GRAMOXONE AND SURFACTENT MIX PRESENTLY USED IN THE FIELD OPERATIONS.

E. ZONE 10 MEXICO CITY BASE

1. MAINTENANCE: AEREO SERVICES ACCEPTED DELIVERY OF REPAIRED 212 XC-BEM WHICH HAD BEEN OUT OF SERVICE UNDERGOING EXTENSIVE REPAIRS IN A U.S. FACILITY FOR 15 MONTHS. TOTAL AVAILABLE OPERATIONAL 212 FLEET IS NOW 14 AIRCRAFT.

(A) AEREO SERVICES CREW TRAVELED TO THE U.S. TO ACCEPT AND RETURN THE REPAIRED MEXICAN AIR FORCE MODEL 206-B HELICOPTER WHICH CRASHED DURING THE CAMPAIGN OF MARCH 1977.

(B) PLANS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE AG TO PROCEED WITH THE EXTENSION OF THE CENTRAL BASE MAINTENANCE SHOP AREA. COMPLETION IS EXPECTED WITHIN 90 DAYS AFTER CONTRACT IS AWARDED.

2. TELECOMMUNICATIONS: THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTION IS IN THE PROCESS OF MOVING TO THEIR NEW COMPLEX WITHIN THE GENERAL AVIATION AREA OF THE MEXICO CITY AIRPORT. CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION COSTS OF THE OLD AG HANGAR WERE FUNDED BY THE GOM. THE NEW FACILITY WILL ACCOMMODATE ALL THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECTION, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES, EMBASSY/NAU TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADVISORS AND THREE LARGE FULLY EQUIPPED CLASSROOMS FOR MULTI-PURPOSE TRAINING COURSES.

3. FLIGHT FOLLOWING CENTER: THE FFC REPORTS THE UNPRECE-

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DENTED TOTAL OF HOURS FLOWN BY THE AEREO SERVICES FLEET
FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1978, AMOUNTED TO 2,910 HOURS FOR
BOTH FIXED AND ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT. LUCEY

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